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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q80097

Shin-ichi UEHARA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/787,128

Group Art Unit: 2872

Confirmation No.: 4671

Examiner: Audrey Y. CHANG, Ph.D.

Filed: February 27, 2004

For: THREE-DIMENSIONAL IMAGE DISPLAY DEVICE PORTABLE TERMINAL
DEVICE, AND LENTICULAR LENS

SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please review and enter the following supplemental remarks summarizing the telephonic conference conducted on November 13, 2006:

REMARKS

The Interview Summary dated November 21, 2006 that was received by Applicant mischaracterizes the substance of the telephonic conference conducted on November 13, 2006 between Examiner Audrey Y. Chang, of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and Applicant's representative, Andrew J. Taska. As a result, Applicant submits the following supplemental remarks to accurately reflect the substance of the telephonic conference on the official record.

During the telephonic conference conducted on November 13, 2006, in response to Applicant's request for a personal interview, the Examiner asked Applicant's representative to

**SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF
SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW
U.S. Application No. 10/787,128**

Attorney Docket No. Q80097

explain the meaning of the phrase “ $\tan(1')$ ” and to explain what the phrase “ $\tan(1')$ ” refers to, so that the Examiner could ascertain the meaning of this phrase.

However, the Interview Summary dated November 21, 2006 inaccurately states that “the applicant’s attorney cannot explain this angle and cannot point out the support for the explanation of this angle from the specification either.” This statement factually misrepresents the substance of the telephonic conference conducted on November 13, 2006.

To the contrary, in response to the Examiner’s request that Applicant’s representative explain the meaning of the phrase “ $\tan(1')$,” Applicant’s representative positively explained that the meaning of the rudimentary trigonometric function “*tan*” is readily discernable by one of ordinary skill in the art. Specifically, Applicant’s representative explained to the Examiner that the *tan* of any angle θ , is equal to the $\sin \theta / \cos \theta$.

Applicant’s representative also pointed out to the Examiner that one of ordinary skill would readily discern that, in geometry, the reference character “ $1'$ ” commonly refers to an angle of 1 minute, wherein a “minute” is a unit of an angle equal to $1/60^{\text{th}}$ of a degree. Applicant’s representative noted that this explanation of “ $\tan(1')$ ” is supported by numerous portions of the originally filed specification, including, but not limited to page 9, lines 12-14; page 11, lines 24-26; page 18, lines 3-5; page 18, lines 19-22; page 19, lines 1-5.

Applicant’s representative also explained that despite the fact that one of ordinary skill in the art would have easily discerned the meaning the phrase “ $\tan(1')$,” in order to expedite prosecution of this application, and in accordance with the Examiner’s specific request that “the explicit definition needs to be stated in the claims,” Applicant nevertheless amended the claims

**SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF
SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW
U.S. Application No. 10/787,128**

Attorney Docket No. Q80097

to recite the explicit numerical definition of the phrase “tan(1’),” which is 0.000291. That is, the value of “tan(1’)” = 0.000291 (i.e., the tan of 1/60th of a degree = 0.000291). Applicant’s representative further explained that one of ordinary skill in the art would readily discern that the number 0.000291 is merely the explicit numerical definition of the phrase “tan(1’).”

In response to the Examiner’s indication that the Examiner still did not understand the physical meaning of the phrase “tan(1’),” Applicant’s representative specifically directed the Examiner to page 17, line 23 – page 19, line 11 of the originally filed specification. As such, Applicant’s representative explained that this passage of the specification clearly shows that the relationship between a viewer’s eyesight and a minimum viewing angle that that viewer can identify is given by the expression:

$$\text{Eyesight} = 1 / \text{minimum viewing angle (measured in minutes)}.$$

Therefore, supposing the general eyesight of a viewer is 1.0, the resulting minimum viewing angle of the viewer is 1 minute, according to the above expression. Thus, Applicant’s representative explained that by using rudimentary trigonometry, if the viewer is situated at an optimal observation distance OD, the viewer’s eyesight resolution is equivalent to the product of the optimal observation distance OD and the tangent of the angle of 1 minute.

Further, Applicant’s representative pointed out that page 17, line 23 – page 19, line 11 also explains that when the widths of the light portion and the dark portion of the stripes are equal, and when each width is $\frac{1}{2}$ of the lens pitch, then the striped patterns are viewed most clearly. Consequently, in the present invention, the lens pitch L (mm) of the cylindrical lenses 3 is set to twice or less the product of the optimal observation distance OD and the tangent of the

**SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF
SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW
U.S. Application No. 10/787,128**

Attorney Docket No. Q80097

angle of 1 minute. As a result, Applicant's representative explained that if the lens pitch L is set to satisfy the claimed expression, the viewer cannot recognize the striped patterns on the three-dimensional image, which occurs due to the reflection of the exterior light at the surface of the lenticular lens 2, and the display quality of the three-dimensional image that the viewer see is thereby improved compared to that of a conventional three-dimensional image display device.

During the telephonic conference conducted on November 13, 2006, Applicant's representative requested a personal interview to demonstrate the trigonometric calculations discussed above. However, as set forth in the Statement of Substance of Interview filed on November 22, 2006, the Examiner refused Applicant's request.

For *at least* the reasons explained above, the statement included the Interview Summary dated November 21, 2006 that "the applicant's attorney cannot explain this angle and cannot point out the support for the explanation of this angle from the specification either," factually misrepresents the substance of the telephonic conference conducted on November 13, 2006. To the contrary, the Examiner merely disagrees with, or does not fully comprehend, the explanation provided by Applicant's representative.

It is respectfully submitted that the instant STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.2 and 1.133 and MPEP §713.04.

**SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF
SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW
U.S. Application No. 10/787,128**

Attorney Docket No. Q80097

It is believed that no petition or fee is required. However, if the USPTO deems otherwise, Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

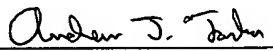
Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 29, 2006